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DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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Board of Supervisors

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February 26, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST TO APPROVE THE PLAN/APPLICATION FOR THE CHILD ABUSE
PREVENTION, INTERVENTION AND TREATMENT
(AB1733 /2994) AND COMMUNITY-BASED FAMILY RESOURCE AND SUPPORT
PROGRAMS**

**(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Approve the attached plan/application, required by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP), for use of AB 1733 Child Abuse Prevention, Intervention and Treatment (CAPIT) and Community-Based Family Resource and Support (CBFRS) funds. The plan will be implemented over a three-year period, beginning July 1, 2002 and ending June 30, 2005.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to sign and submit the plan/application to CDSS. Upon approval of the plan/application, CDSS will allocate funds to the County of Los Angeles for child abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment services.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The purpose of the recommended action is to assure that the County of Los Angeles receives CAPIT and CBFRS funds, which can then be awarded to community-based agencies to provide child abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment services to families and children in all five supervisorial districts. Current CAPIT and CBFRS contracts with community agencies will expire on June 30, 2002. In order for the County of Los Angeles to receive CAPIT and CBFRS funding for the three-year contract cycle of July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2005, the plan/application must be approved by your Board and submitted to OCAP no later than February 28, 2002, for its approval. Subsequent to CDSS's approval of the plan/application, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) will issue a Request For Proposals (RFP) for the allocation of funds.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Recommended actions, necessary to sustain CAPIT and CBFRS funding to provide child abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment services, are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan's Goal #1, Service Excellence.

The funding of community-based agencies that provide child abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment services is integral to the DCFS vision that children grow up safe, physically and emotionally healthy, educated, and in permanent homes. These agencies have been successful in providing intervention and treatment services to the children referred to DCFS, and in outreach to communities to provide support, education and in-home services towards the prevention of child abuse. CAPIT and CBFRS funding is another vehicle that the County of Los Angeles is able to utilize to further DCFS' ability to expand its resources in collaboration with community partners to provide a comprehensive child protection system.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There is no fiscal impact on the County of Los Angeles. The CAPIT funds are appropriated from the State's General Fund. CAPIT funds available to the County of Los Angeles for the three-year cycle beginning July 1, 2002 are \$2,986,803, \$3,069,762 and \$3,111,602, respectively. The total CAPIT funds available are divided equally among the five supervisorial districts. Private, community-based, non-profit agencies are awarded CAPIT funds through a competitive bid process, whereby they contract with DCFS to serve the populations of the supervisorial districts.

CBFRS funds are federal child abuse prevention and treatment funds directed to the County through the State. Allocation information regarding CBFRS funds will be released to counties in October 2002.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

The CAPIT program was established under Chapter 1398, Statutes of 1982, AB 1733 (Welfare and Institution Code Section 18960, et seq.). In 1998, the legislature augmented CAPIT funding as authorized by Chapter 329, Statutes of 1998, AB 2779. Statewide funds were augmented by \$5 million from the State's General Fund, for total statewide funding of \$14.8 million. For FY 2000-01, the statewide funding for CAPIT services was decreased by \$1 million as a result of the State's budget shortfall.

The OCAP is vested with the responsibility of ensuring that counties allocate revenue through the use of an accountable process that utilizes a multidisciplinary approach, and that strengthens child abuse councils. The OCAP also ensures program compliance and accountability to the county plan and legislative intent. Additionally, federal legislation authorizes the federal CBFRS grant for child abuse prevention.

Your Board has designated the Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN) as the multidisciplinary child abuse council responsible for conducting needs assessments and recommending funding guidelines and priorities for CAPIT funds. Your Board has designated DCFS to administer the CAPIT and CBFRS programs.

Currently there is no other program offered in the County of Los Angeles for the prevention, intervention, and treatment of child abuse that can be accessed by anyone residing in any of the supervisorial districts that is free of charge and/or requires no DCFS referral.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES:

CAPIT and CBFRS funds permit private, community-based, non-profit agencies to provide child abuse prevention and intervention services to at-risk children and families in the County of Los Angeles. The availability of these services is paramount to promoting child safety, empowering families, promoting healthy parent-child relationships, and preventing child abuse and neglect. These agencies provide services unique to the needs of their community that feature culturally and linguistically sensitive services that include, but are not limited to, parent education and support; in-home counseling and teaching and demonstrating homemaking instruction; individual, family, and group counseling; crisis intervention; outreach; school-based services; case-management; and information and referral.

CONCLUSION:

Upon approval by the Board of Supervisors, we request that the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board send a copy of the adopted Board letter to: Deanne Tilton, Executive Director of ICAN at 4024 No. Durfee Road, El Monte, CA 91732; Armand Montiel,

Assistant Division Chief, Contract Management Services, 425 Shatto Place, Room 205,
and; Thomas P. Fagan, Deputy County Counsel at 210 Centre Plaza Drive, Suite 1
Monterey Park, Ca 91754.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita M. Bock
Director

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Enclosures

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors